SHAVERTRON

"The Only Source of Post-Deluge Shaverania"

winter — no. 2

MYSTERY VOICE in SHIP CRASH

NY Post 6-13-73

The Coast Guard inquiry into the June 2 collision between the Sea Witch and the Esso Brussels continues today as investigators search for the owner of a "mystery voice" which radioed a warning before the impending crash.

The message was received by a harbor pilot, Capt. George Loud, who yesterday told the three-member board he had been navigating a freighter near Staten Island when he had heard over his radio: "Stay clear of the Sea Witch, she's lost her steering. She's going to hit a tanker."

A few seconds later, Loud said, he heard the radio say: "There she goes." The captain testified that after hearing the broadcast, he had scanned the horizon and had witnessed the collision between the American Export container vessel and the Belgian tanker.

The toll now stands at 10 dead and 6 Brussels crewmen missing and presumed dead.

Faulty Steering

Previous testimony during eight days of hearings has indicated, and the Coast Guard has confirmed, that a faulty steering mechanism in the rear of the Sea Witch was responsible for the collision.

The chairman of the examining panel, Rear Ad. James W. Moreau, said he thought the "mystery" radio message "sounds like someone on a vessel nearby." He asked the press "to assist us in finding the source of the communication" and said that any information should be forwarded to the Coast Guard commandant in New York.

Capt. Donald Waldeck of the tugboat Jane McAllister testified he had heard over his radio shortly before the crash: "May Day, May Day, this is the container vessel Sea Witch. We've lost our steering gear and we're going to have a collision."

Tentative Finding

After hearing testimony Waldeck's Moreau refused to speculate on whether the unknown voice heard by Loud had come from the Sea Witch. He said: "This may be it."

Moreau said he had wired Coast Guard headquarters in Washington that the "tentative finding" of the board of inquiry attributed the loss of steering in the Sea Witch to a failure of a coupling in the steering mechanism.

In addition, the message recommends that "all inspected vessels with similar steering gear installation be immediately advised of possible defect."

During the hearing at the U.S. Customs House on Bowling Green, a Sea Witch sailor, Johan Johanson, testified that the container vessel had been top-heavy when fully loaded. From M. Cohen

BURLESQUE and the Shaver Mystery

by R. Shaver

DRAWING BY ** RICHARD S. SHAVER

following our contention that all art is an unnatural display of utter idiocy or group madness...we give you the "Apotheosis of the Ballet", whatever that big word apotheosis means, I never could find out.

If you don't believe that all art is nuts, go to the opera ...in German or Italian. Hah. You don't know what-n-H it's all about either, and you don't go.

You know what I think art really is? ...Burlesque. Now there was real art. All the rest is just an imitation of the real thing. Hah! Whatever became of burlesque? There was only one honest artist. He painted truth... Toulouse Lautrec. All the rest are just imitators, wishing they had his guts! Hah!

I wonder what Toulouse drank?

Pilot Goes Berserk 9-1-77

ZAMBOANGA CITY, The Philippinas (AP) — Without a word, a veteran airline pilot left the controls of his plane Thursday, picked up an automatic rifle and sprayed ammunition into the passenger compartment, killing eight persons, officials said.

The crew and servicemen on the military charter flight subdued the pilot, and the copilot, Rolando Suarez, landed the plane in this southern Philippine city.

The dead were a flight attendant and seven of the 34 passengers, all members of the Philippine armed forces. Fourteen service yen were hospitalized, as was the pilot, Capt. Ernesto Abuloc, described as in his 40s. Doctors said Abuloc suffered bruises during the scuffle.

Nine hours after the shooting, Abuloc was reported incoherent and in shock, handcuffed hand and foot and under heavy guard.

6-2-77

Similar Suicides

Tokyo

Five women, aged between 31 and 57, committed suicide by leaping in front of trains in separate incidents in Tokyo yesterday, police said.

Reuters

EDITORIAL

BY RICHARD ROSS TORONTO

As your editor sits here pasting up this issue of SHAVERTRON, it is becoming more apparent to him what a many-sided creature Richard S. Shaver was, and continues to be. There are so many aspects to the so-called Shaver Mystery that it is difficult to decide where to begin. Would you readers care to hear more about his researches into the rock books (those ante-diluvian artifacts that occupied more than 20 years of his life); or would a discussion of his science-fiction stories interest you more; or scientific debates on the aging process and its causes, the make-up of the universe (full of exd), the inhabitants of the caverns beneath our feet, his artwork and his contribution as an artist, or the many and varied aspects of his life as a man???

Well, I'm only guessing, but it seems to me that what most people think of when Shaver pops into their minds is the famous "Mystery" of dero/tero fame. Of caverns and ray-mech and secrets so terrible that no one dare speak their names...except for Richard Shaver, who believed he was doing the world a service by informing them of something they did <u>not</u> want to believe. This made him a very alienated and bitter man.

Shaver was a revolutionary with no true followers in the revolutionary sense...no one would pick up arms to overthrow the evil he continually exposed...(although Ray Palmer often declared that there were those who died for the Mystery). Shaver expounded a new world view...or rather, amalgamated bits and pieces of historical events and related them to our own 20th century. It was a world order of slaves, unknowing slaves at that, who are chained by an alien race of beings who are detrimental to our way of life.

A revolution was in order, he said, to overthrow the dispicable leeches of our history on this planet...and he was the man who would rally us to the banner, the banner of freedom. The only way he found to do this, however, was through his science-fiction stories. Thus, his revolutionary followers were his fans, and those all but abandoned him by the late 1950's. But that did not stop him from continuing his struggle and researches into the True goings-on here on earth. By the 1960's, he was a beaten man...beaten by the forces that he wanted to overthrow... beaten by Devolution, one of his pet concepts. Devolution, according to Shaver, was the fact that the race, our race, was now beginning a slow turn around in its Darwinian upsurge to greater superiority; that we were going backwards ,becoming more primitive creatures. He may have been right.

He hated the educational system, the government, the Churches the media. They were the puratrators of the "false sylligism", based upon false information injected into our civilization's veins by the dope-weilding dero. He blamed this faction's sabotage for his "elimination" from the science-fiction arena, where he could continue his fight against these overwhelming odds. But his worldwide revolution failed... or did it? Are we any closer to uncovering what Shaver tried to bring to light? Or are we that many years closer to devolutionary oblivion in the four short years since his death?

Keeping in mind all these complex pieces of Richard Shaver's life, we have instituted a couple of new features: one is a listing of his vast portfolio of published sci-fi stories (as compiled by Jim Pobst of British Columbia, Canada.) We'll start with his epics from AMAZING STORIES, since that is where it all began; readers will find that the old pulps can still be found lying around old book and magazine stores, often for a very fair price.

The second new feature is an article by Eldon K. Everett from Seattle, Washington, who did some Shaverian research himself into the rumours of lost caves in the Tacoma area. We wholeheartedly encourage any reader who

con't. p. 4

THE DUPUIS PAPERS

by ELDON K. EVERETT

What about the Tacoma Caves? Well, starting around 1870, the Northern Pacific Railroad and others started importing thousands of Chinese laborers into the Tacoma area. This was illegal, of course, but it was done anyway.

With the Chinese there came opium smuggling galore on this Northwestern counterpart to the Barbary Coast. Crime and vice (most of it laid to the pitiful Chinese) got so far out of hand, that in 1885 the 30,000 righteous citizens of Tacoma grabbed their guns and drove the several thousand Chinese out of town, most of the Orientals trekking 40 miles up the Bay to Seattle.

It was common knowledge that the Chinese had carried on their evil trafficking through some old caves they had discovered. The legend of these caves, honeycombing the entire Peninsula, persists to this day.

In December, 1938, Carl Dupuis deposited a 1400-word document called THE MYSTERIOUS CHINESE CAVES with the Washington State Historical Society. Two typescripts of this document (Doc. # 979.7781//D929X) are currently in the society's files. One of them is a recent copy, the other apparently is Dupuis' original. The copy is of the first as it stands. But the original is incomplete! The last few pages, ostensibly an interview with an aged citizen of the area, have been lost or stolen.

The material which follows is from the remaining pages of the document:

During the spring of 1936, Tacoma City Light workers were placing an electrical conuit underground in an alley between Pacific Ave. and "A" Street, just back of the State Hotel.

At a point approximately 75 feet south of 7th St. the crew crosscut a tunnel some ten feet below the ground. William Zimmerman, of 4305 S. L Street, entered the tunnel. It was three feet wide by five feet high and tended in a southwesterly direction, under the hotel. In the opposite direction, it angled toward Commencement Bay.

Zimmerman found that he could walk about 50 feet in either direction. Under the Hotel, the tunnel was blocked, apparently by a cave-in. Away from the Hotel, the tunnel turned sharply toward the west, and after several feet, a gradual curve to the right again. About 30 feet from the entrance, the tunnel dipped sharply, and Zimmerman reported that it would have been necessary to use a rope to descend safely on the wet floor.

Zimmerman also investigated the cave beneath the old Tacoma Hotel, now Stadium High School. A hill drops sharply behind this old building for some 400 feet. The hill is crossed by a little-used railroad spur but, for the most part, it is covered with fir trees and dense undergrowth. The cave entrance is supposed to be partially blocked, but still accessible. Climbing around on this hillside, which is 3 miles from downtown Tacoma, is pretty dangerous, but I have twice tried to locate the entrance, without success. According to legend, there is also an entrance down on the Bay, some 50 feet from the foot of the hill. This is a very deserted stretch of waterfront, covered for the most part by a crumbling seawall, and the blackened timbers of the old Tacoma docks which burned many years ago. This entrance is supposed to be underwater at high tide.

Zimmerman, so far as I know, is the only one to leave a record in print of his investigations of this cave. According to the mutilated Dupuis document, Zimmerman went back over 150 feet into the hillside, but was met by a cave-in apparently caused by the water from the firehoses when the top floors of the Tacoma Hotel burned 50 years

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would so desire, to send us material related to the Shaver Mystery for publication. Mr. Everett also enclosed a fragment of a letter from Richard Shaver dated 1950, in which Shaver reveals some interesting insight into his writing:

"Speaking of (Edgar Rice) Burroughs, did you read my "Gods of Venus", which was modelled after the ERB "Gods of Mars"?

"I had written to Burroughs in a moment of soft-headed ambition (or was it egregious impudence?) wondering if we couldn't work out a deal whereby I could go on with the Burroughs novels as Matson went on with the Thorne Smith series.

"His secretary replied that Burroughs wasn't dead yet, so no soap. I tried to get a letter to Burroughs himself, explaining that I was using "Gods of Mars" as a model just to see what I could do with a Burroughs plot, but he never answered and his secretary probably deemed me beneath notice.

"Anyway, if you're a Burroughs fan, read my "Gods of Venus" and see what you think."

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Gods of Venus" can be found in the March, 1948 issue of AMAZING STORIES.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Don't forget to send in your SSAE for the next issue of SHAVERTRON. This is the only way your editor will know who to send what to next! May EXD be with you.

- AMAZING STORIES -

[1945-1957]

I REMEMBER LEMURIA...March 1945; THOUGHT RECORDS OF LEMURIA...June 1945; CAVE CITY OF HEL...September 1945; QUEST OF HRAIL...December 1945; INVASION OF THE MICRO-MEN...Feb 1946; THE MASKED WORLD...May 1946; LUDFR VALLEY...June 1946; CULT OF THE WITCH QUEEN...July 1946 (w/B.McKenna); THE SEA PEOPLE...Aug 1946; EARTH SLAVES TO SPACE...Sept 1946; THE RETURN OF SATHANAS...Nov 1946 (w/ Bob McKenna); THE LAND OF KUI...Dec 1946; THE MIND ROVERS...Jan 1947; JOE DANNON, PIONEER...Mar 1947; THE CRYSTALINE SARCOPHAGUS...May 1947; SHAVER MYSTERY ISSUE...June 1947, containing i)Formula From the Underworld ii) Zigor Mephisto's Collection of Mentalia iii) Witch's Daughter iv) The Red Legion v) A Proof; MER WITCH OF ETHER 18...Aug 1947; FIRST ROCKET...Aug 1947 (by D. Richard Sharpe); OF GODS AND GOATS...Dec 1947; MEDIEVAL ILLICIT... Jan 1948; FLESH AGAINST SPIRIT...Mar 1948 by A. Blade; GODS OF VENUS... Mar 1948; ICE CITY OF THE GORGON...June 1948 (w/Chester Gier); IF WE GET A CHANCE (article)...July 1948; TITAN'S DAUGHTER...Sept 1948; DAUGHTER OF NIGHT...Dec 1948; THE CYCLOPS (article)...1949,January; STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF GUY SYLVESTER...Mar 1949 (by Taylor Victor Shaver and Chester S. Geier); I MURDERED YOU...June 1949 by Ruppert Carlin; WHEN THE MOON BOUNCED...May 1949 by Frank Patton; EXILES OF THE ELFMOUNDS...July 1949; ERDIS CLIFF...SEPT 1949; BATTLE IN ETERNITY... Nov 1949 (w/ Chester Geier); PILLARS OF DELIGHT...Dec 1949 by Stan Raycraft; WE DANCE FOR THE DOM...Jan 1950; HISTORICAL ASPECT OF THE SAUCERS...Oct 1957 (article).

-cont from p 3

ago. He described a branch in the tunnel, turning to the right, and advanced the theory that it was likely that this branch connected with the tunnel on 7th Street. Another branch led off toward Pacific Ave. but apparantly Zimmerman followed neither of these branches for any distance.

Graham Says Devil 'Possessed' Jones

Washington 1-18-79

Evangelist Billy Graham said yesterday he believes the Rev. Jim Jones was "possessed by the devil" when he ordered his Peoples Temple followers to carry out their mass suicide in Jonestown, Guyana.

"There are forces of evil in the world that must be taken seriously," Graham told a National Press Club gathering. He pointed to the deaths of Jones and more than 900 of his followers as an event that "cannot be explained apart from the demonic."

"I believe he (Jones) was possessed by the devil," said Graham, declaring the devil "counterfeits true faith."

"There is no way one can link Jim Jones with the church," Graham said. "He used the church for his own demonic ends."

Asked what the government could do to protect people from such cults, Graham said churches don't want governmental interference but he supports "a requirement that every religious organization make public its financial statement."

Graham also said:

- He has not and will not take a stand on the Equal Rights Amendment, saying women should have "all the rights that belong to them, recognizing they are different."

- He has spoken by phone four or five times with former President Nixon since his resignation and the former president sounds more jovial each time.

United Press

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Scientists Push A $1 Billion 'Death Ray'

Washington 1-22-79

Scientists are recommending that the Pentagon step up research on particle beams — streams of energy likened to lightning bolts or a Buck Rogers death ray — in a program that could cost $1 billion over ten years.

Dr. Ruth Davis, the Pentagon official in charge of research and advanced technology, said in an interview yesterday that a panel of 53 scientists studying the matter soon will send its final report to Defense Secretary Harold Brown.

Pentagon officials said Brown already has indicated willingness to spend more money on technology if it is as well justified as the particle beam research appears to be.

There are reports that the Russians already have tested a particle beam, or will shortly, and some people worry that the United States is falling behind on exotic technology.

Both the panel of scientists and U.S. intelligence forces say that neither Russia nor the United States is likely to test the weapons before the 1990s.

Particle beams fired from the ground or space at close to the speed of light — 186,000 miles a second — have been suggested as a means of stopping enemy nuclear missiles before they reach the United States.

The thinking is that beams could neutralize missiles by heat or by frazzling their electronics.

'DEATH RAY'

But there are big problems. So far, beams have been created only inside laboratory devices called accelerators. Davis said that controlling them would be like leashing lightning, which "zigs and zags and doesn't strike twice" because of atmospheric disruptions its passage causes.

"We still have too much basic physics and hard engineering to be done" to judge whether they can be used as weapons, she said.

But she said the 53 private and government scientists assembled by Edward Chapin of the government's Los Alamos nuclear laboratory last fall mapped out proposals for five years of research to "put the jigsaw puzzle together."

The scientists recommended increases in five areas, including ways to control and point beams, and development of super-sophisticated radar to track and switch them from one target to another with great speed.

Davis said if engineering problems could be overcome "you could hit hundreds of targets in a single second."

The panel suggested spending increases ranging from tens to hundreds of millions of dollars, depending on how far the Pentagon wants to shoot a beam. That could range from half a mile to 600 miles.

Davis herself estimated the research could cost $1 billion over ten years, based on the cost of the Pentagon's high energy laser program, which still has not been demonstrated as a possible weapon.

United Press

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ONLY state in the nation without explorable caves is Delaware.

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'Voice From Grave' Suspect Confesses

Chicago 2-23-79

A hospital worker, named by "a voice from the grave" as the killer of a 48-year-old woman, entered a surprise guilty plea yesterday.

Judge Frank W. Barbaro then sentenced Allan Showery, 32, to 14 years in prison for the murder. Showery pleaded guilty to stabbing and strangling Teresita Basa on Feb. 21, 1977, and to armed robbery and arson. He was sentenced to concurrent terms of four to 12 years for armed robbery and arson.

Showery's guilty pleas came during a retrial. After a long trial that ended January 26, the jury was unable to reach a verdict and a mistrial was declared.

Showery and Basa worked at Edgewater Hospital. He came under investigation in the woman's murder when a co-worker, Remebios Chua, and her husband, Jose, told police that the victim's "spirit" named Showery as the killer.

The "voice from the grave," supposedly speaking through Mrs. Chua, also told her husband that Showery stole jewelry from Basa when he ransacked her apartment.

Basa's burned body was found beneath a mattress in the apartment.

Showery was arrested after police recovered the missing jewelry from his common-law wife.

Associated Press

Baker Slays Five, Dies in Mixer

Manila 6-26-76

A baker went berserk, killing five people with two knives and wounding seven before jumping into a rotating flour mixer which crushed him to death, police in the central Philippines city of Cebu said yesterday.

Reuters

'Evil voices' led to attack

By Gary Oakes 9-5-79
Toronto Star

A housekeeper who says she was "possessed" by evil people, who put a curse on her and compelled her to attack her employer, will be sentenced Sept. 20 for wounding.

Emily Mae Hernadi, 40, pleaded guilty when she appeared yesterday before Mr. Justice William Maloney of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Prosecutor Ken Murray said Mrs. Hernadi had been speaking amiably with her employer, Arlene Zweig of Alexis Blvd., North York, last Nov. 13 before the attack.

Later that night, when Mrs. Zweig was taking a shower, the lights went off. After she stepped from the shower and called Mrs. Hernadi, she was attacked without warning by the 250-pound housekeeper.

Murray said Mrs. Hernadi used a heavy clothes iron to beat the 123-pound Mrs. Zweig.

She also pushed her employer back into the bathtub and turned on hot water which caused first- and second-degree burns, court was told.

The glass shower doors were smashed during the attack and Mrs. Zweig suffered several cuts, including a severed artery in her left wrist.

Stopped attack

Murray said Mrs. Zweig managed to bite Mrs. Hernadi and the attack ceased. The housekeeper left the bathroom and the lights came back on. Moments later, she returned, apologized and tried to help Mrs. Zweig.

Police were called and when they arrived, Mrs. Hernadi said: "I tried to kill her. Oh God, I tried to kill her."

Mrs. Zweig spent 10 days in hospital and is permanently scarred as a result of the attack, court was told.

"It doesn't make any sense," Mrs. Hernadi told police. "I didn't have any reason to hit her."

But she said: "There's a curse in my house. There's a doll in the house. It's a curse doll."

Police later found a small, black, human-like figure in the kitchen of Mrs. Sweig's home.

It was wrapped in a pair of Mrs. Zweig's panties and a lock of her hair was with it. Photographs of Mrs. Zweig were also attached to the doll, which had seven pins stuck in it.

Heard voices

"All I hear is voices," Mrs. Hernadi told police: "They said that Arlene (Mrs. Zweig) had to die.

"I told them I didn't want to . . . they told me I had to do what they told me if I wanted to be one of them.

"It's like somebody is pressing something heavy on my head."

Asked who she meant by "they," Mrs. Hernadi replied: "They're a group. They're evil people. They make people do their bidding for them."

Murray said police found a number of books and articles "relating to witchcraft and voodoo" in Mrs. Hernadi's room in the Zweig house.

She told police she didn't know what had happened the night of the attack. "All I can remember is the blood."

Defence counsel Barry Fox said Mrs. Hernadi has made progress during the 10 months she has spent in a mental facility since the attack.

Fox said he will call a psychiatrist and a psychologist to testify at the sentencing.

from Jim Wentworth 6

Weird Mistakes at 3 Mile Plant

SF Chronicle
5-18-79

Washington

Operators trying to control the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident repeatedly drew the wrong conclusions from a flood of conflicting information and were hampered at every turn by equipment glitches and seemingly malicious fate, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was told yesterday.

The NRC's special task force on the March 28 incident in Pennsylvania, releasing its first interim chronology of the near-disaster, reported that:

• An operator inadvertently blocked with his body the view of indicators that would have told him two crucial feedwater pump valves were closed. NRC sources explained after the meeting that the operator was "a big man with a large belly that hung over the instrument panel."

• Listening through an amplifier system to gurgles and thumps within a steam generator, operators decided the noises meant there was water inside, when in fact the generator was boiling dry.

• The computer printout of events during the crisis, similar to an airline flight recorder, jammed for nearly 90 minutes at the height of events. It was running two hours behind and eventually much of its data was lost altogether.

• After operators were ordered to don respirators and face masks to guard against radiation they were unable to talk to each other.

• Ordered to evacuate the control room of Unit 2 for the adjacent control room of Unit 1, only a few operators did so, and those who went left the door open.

• In the middle of the crisis, when fuel damage was occurring for lack of cooling water, operators kept the pumps off from fear that vibrations would damage the pumps. "There was a general feeling that there must be something wrong with the (temperature gauges), that the temperature couldn't possibly be that high," reported chief investigator Robert Martin.

• The NRC's regional headquarters did not learn of the accident until 36 minutes after Three Mile Island officials called, because the headquarters director was stuck in a traffic jam and could not respond to the answering service beeper.

The General Accounting Office, meanwhile, said in a report issued yesterday that human error in nuclear plant control rooms is a problem not limited to Three Mile Island.

Noting that mistakes by operators are common causes of technical problems at nuclear plants around the nation, the GAO criticized the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's rules governing the training and licensing of operating personnel.

The report said that about 90 percent of the applicants for licenses to be control room operators pass the qualifying examination on the first try, prompting the GAO to question whether NRC's test is too easy. The GAO also noted that the commission does not require utilities to report names of operators who commit technical errors. Thus the government cannot monitor the competence of the operators it has licensed.

The GAO report, requested by Senator Richard S. Schweiker, R-Pa., after the Three Mile Island accident, concluded that the NRC and various organizations investigating the Pennsylvania accident should emphasize strengthening the procedures for licensing the people who operate nuclear generating plants.

The GAO said that errors by numerous categories of people — technicians, managers, maintenance crews, and others working at the plants — also can have serious implications. But workers in these other categories are not licensed.

The GAO report said that the average control room operator in a nuclear plant is a 34-year-old high school graduate with seven years of power plant experience.

Washington Post

Shaver

PRINTS

We are thinking about reproducing photographically apprx. 13 sketches by Richard Shaver. These would be in the area of 4by5 or 6 inches in B&W. If enough people are interested, will go ahead with it. So please write if you'd care to comment.